

Section 7. Quality of Life

Climate

Climate	Union, NC	United States
Rainfall (in.)	46.1	36.5
Snowfall (in.)	3.8	25
Precipitation Days	95	100
Sunny Days	214	205
Avg. July High	90	86.5
Avg. Jan. Low	31.6	20.5
Comfort Index (higher=better)	35	44
UV Index	4.8	4.3
Elevation ft.	578	1,060

Source: Sperling's Best Places, May 2011.

Crime Statistics

Violent Crime	2008	2009
Murder	5	3
Rape	17	15
Robbery	22	28
Aggravated Assault	267	124

Property Crime	2008	2009
Burglary	894	865
Larceny	1,087	1,423
Motor Vehicle Theft	123	111
Arson	11	19

Source: NC Department of Justice, verified April, 2011.
www.ncdoj.gov

Access to Health Care

Access to quality health care is an important issue when your family is moving to a new area. But quality health care isn't an issue in Union County – there's an abundance of it.

More than 190 physicians practice in specialties from cardiology to pediatrics, from oncology to radiology. The county also has health professionals in chiropractic, podiatry, optometry, dentistry and other fields. Although all physicians have offices in Union County, some are based in nearby Charlotte and hold non-daily hours in Union County. Residents have choices in hospital care, emergency care and long-term care.

Carolina Medical Center-Union is the largest healthcare provider in the county, maintaining a 227-bed facility with acute and long-term care services. Union Regional Medical Center is part of Carolinas HealthCare System, the largest healthcare system in the Carolinas and one of the largest public systems in the nation. This affiliation ensures that area residents have excellent healthcare in their community while having access to other services available through an integrated healthcare system.

In 2002, URMHC completed an 85,000-square-foot \$47 million expansion to accommodate the dramatic increases in service demands. A two-story Outpatient Treatment Pavilion includes a cancer treatment center with radiation and medical oncology services, a state of the art Imaging Center and an expanded Rehabilitation Services department.

Each year, more than 1,300 babies are born at CMC-Union in its Women's and Children's Center. The hospital's six luxurious labor, delivery and (LDR) suites provide a comfortable and homelike setting for the arrival of a new baby. A variety of educational classes for expectant families are also available through the Women and Children's Center.

The surgical services department currently has seven operating suites, where physicians perform an average of 550 surgery cases each month. Local residents benefit from the convenience of both inpatient and outpatients surgical care.

The hospital's expanded emergency department serves more than 3,300 patients each month, providing treatment for major and minor emergencies. The department is equipped with trauma and treatment rooms for cardiac, obstetric, pediatric, ophthalmic and orthopedic emergencies and a fast-track Emergency area. Union EMS and MedCenter Air support trauma care.

Union Regional also offers a wide range of healthcare services in the privacy of patients' homes through CMC-Union Home Care. Each year, skilled Home Care professionals provide such services as wound care and dressing changes, medication instruction and diabetic and colostomy care.

CMC-Union has effectively built a solid reputation on its motto, "So Advanced, So Close."

Union County residents are fortunate to have a second hospital nearby. Located just west of the Union-Mecklenburg county border in Matthews, Presbyterian Hospital Matthews provides care to many residents in western Union County. The 102-bed facility provides inpatient and outpatient surgery, laboratory, critical care services and a 24-hour emergency room. A maternity center has a 13-bed nursery and 12 labor/deliver/recovery/ postpartum suites decorated with homelike touches. Prenatal classes are available for patients, grandparents and siblings.

Presbyterian is affiliated with Winston Salem based Novant Healthcare, an integrated non-profit system that includes three Presbyterian-owned physician practices in Union County. Critical care transport is available between Presbyterian Matthews and Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte.

Hospitals Serving Union County

Carolina Medical Center-Union

600 Hospital Drive

PO Box 5003

Monroe, NC 28111

704-283-3100

www.unionregional.org

For a physician directory, visit online at www.unionregional.org.

Presbyterian Hospital Matthews

1500 Matthews Township Pky.

Matthews, NC 28105

704-384-6570

www.presbyterian.org

For physician referral information, call 704-384-CARE (2273).



Carolinas Healthcare Network – Union County Area

Cardiology

Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute

1550 Faulk St., Suite 3100
Monroe
704-667-3410

Family Medicine

Indian Trail Family Medicine

4503 Old Monroe Rd.
Indian Trail
704-821-6900

Lake Park Family Practice

6208 Creft Circle, Suite 222
Indian Trail
704-882-1666

Medical Group of Waxhaw

524 N. Broome St.
Waxhaw
704-243-2254

Pageland Family Medicine

301 N. Van Lingle Mungo Blvd.
Pageland
843-672-6127

Union Family Practice

1106 Reynolds St.
Monroe
704-289-5443

Union Primary Care

1423 E. Franklin St., Suite F
Monroe
704-289-5617

Weddington Family Medicine

1928 Weddington Rd.
Weddington
704-667-3500

Urgent Care

Carolinas HealthCare Urgent Care-Monroe

613 E. Roosevelt Blvd.
Monroe
704-283-8193

Urgent Care – Cont'd.

Carolinas HealthCare

Urgent Care-Union West
Union West Medical Plaza
6030 W. Hwy. 74, Suite A
Indian Trail
704-246-2777

General Surgery

Union Surgical Associates

1550 Faulk St., Suite 1100
Monroe
704-289-3024

Union Surgical Associates

Union West Medical Plaza
6030W. Hwy. 74, Suite E
Indian Trail
704-289-3024

Weddington Family Medicine

1928 Highway 84
Weddington
704-667-3500

Imaging

Union West MRI Center

Union West Medical Plaza
Suite C
6030 W. Highway 74
Indian Trail
704-246-2999

Internal Medicine

Dove Internal Medicine

1423 E. Franklin St., Suite D
Monroe
704-289-6474

Dove Internal Medicine

Union West Medical Plaza
Suite D
6030 W. Hwy 74
Indian Trail
704-246-2800

Union Medical Associates

1303 Dove St.
Monroe
704-282-0488

Obstetrics/Gynecology

Eastover OB/GYN

Union West Medical Plaza
6030W. Hwy. 74, Suite B
Indian Trail
704-446-7800

Union OB/GYN

1550 Faulk St., Suite 2100
Monroe
704-289-2553

Union OB/GYN

Union West Medical Plaza
6030 Highway 74, Suite B
Indian Trail
704-289-2553

Oncology

Carolinas Cancer Associates

1650 Faulk St., Suite A
Monroe
704-290-0444

Pediatrics

Union Pediatrics

1328 E. Patterson St.
Monroe
704-283-2000

Indian Trail Pediatrics

Union West Medical Plaza, Suite F
6030 W. Highway 74
Indian Trail
704-246-2900

Sleep Medicine

Union Pulmonary and Sleep Specialists

1428 Ellen St., Suite B
Monroe
704-226-0413

Source: CMC-Union



Area Attractions

Aw Shucks! Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch

Aw Shucks! (formerly of Marshville) is in Monroe and growing every year! Corn Maze, Hayrides, Pumpkins, Animals, General Store, Fishing, Bonfires, Nature Trail, Haunted Trail, and more! Open: September 18th - November 22nd Located just off Hwy. 200-S on Plyler Mill Rd. in the Parkwood area. 704-709-7000; www.awshuckscornmaze.com

Downtown Monroe

Summer fun for families -FREE! Movies on the Plaza and Music on Main run through the summer months. For dates, times & details, 704-292-1705; www.historicdowntownmoroenc.org

Extreme Ice Center

This 87, 000 square foot facility includes 2 NHL-sized ice rinks, and a smaller rink. The facility includes a pro-shop, arcade, locker rooms, full-service snack bar and a fitness center. Lessons, league play, public skating and practice sessions for the Charlotte Checkers all take place at Extreme Ice Center, located at 4705 Indian Trail-Fairview Road. 704-882-1830; www.xicenter.com

Farmer's Market

Local vendors offer homegrown produce, plants, baked goods and more. Open Tues - Sat 805 Skyway Drive, Monroe; 704-283-3625. Waxhaw Farmer's Market is open Saturdays 9 am – 1 pm. Open Air Market - Monroe located at the corner of Franklin & Main Streets on July 26, August 9 & 23, and September 6 & 20; 704-292-1705.

Historic Union County Courthouse/Heritage Room

This 1888 Victorian Italianate building, featured in motion pictures, now houses county offices and the Heritage Room. If you are interested in county history or genealogical work, this is it. Heritage Room open 10-3, Mon.–Wed., 1-4 Thurs. Old Courthouse, Monroe; 704-289-6737; <http://www.co.union.nc.us/HeritageRm/HeritageRm.htm>.

Jesse Helms Center

This facility holds a wide variety of exhibit items and contains fascinating art and media displays highlighting the life of retired Sen. Jesse Helms, a native of Monroe. Archiving of historical documents from the senator's long career in public life is an ongoing project. Mon.-Fri. 9-5, U.S. 74, Wingate; 704-233-1776, www.jessehelmscenter.org.

Mexico-Cardenas Museum

Located on the campus of JAARS, this museum celebrates the people of Mexico and Wycliffe Bible Translators, of which JAARS is the technical service arm. Open 9am - 12pm and 1:00pm - 4pm Mon.-Sat. Davis Road, Waxhaw; 704-843-6066; www.jaars.org.

Museum of the Alphabet

Man's languages are the focus, with emphasis on ancient alphabets and the Wycliffe Bible Translators. Open 9am - 12pm, 1:00pm - 4pm, Mon.-Sat. Davis Road, Waxhaw; 704-843-6066, www.jaars.org.

Museum of the Waxhaws

Experience regional history from 1650 to 1900, including Andrew Jackson's life. Open Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday and Sunday 2pm – 5pm, nominal admission charge. Expansion is underway with outdoor exhibits which re-create living spaces from Scots-Irish settlers and Indians, picnic area. Most months feature a theatrical or educational program. In the summer, day workshops for kids are held. The Waxhaw Amphitheater is available to rent for private events. Waxhaw Highway 75; 704-843-1832, www.museumofthewaxhaws.org.

Rainbow Theater

This multicultural community organization emphasizes youth theater, dance and music. Regular workshops are presented, with trips to professional productions. 704-283-2784.

Union County Community Arts Council Gallery

Downtown Monroe is enhanced by this gallery, which features exhibits/open houses of artists and their various mediums and entertainment. 120 N. Main St., Monroe; 704-283-2784; www.unionarts.org.

Union County Players

Dramas and special shows highlight this nonprofit community theater, which performs at various sites. A youth theater performs several shows a year. 704-289-7000; www.unioncountwritersclub.org.

Union County Writers Club

This club meets monthly to present programs by area writers and sponsors an annual Literary Arts Festival to recognize area talent. 704-289-7000; www.unionarts.org.

Union County Symphony

This society consists of the Union Symphony, a 25-member orchestra that plays through the year, and the Union Singers, a 35-member auditioned chorus that performs with the symphony. 704-282-0028, www.unionsymphony.org

Wingate University

The University and its Batte Fine Arts Center present arts exhibits, theatrical performances, concerts and recitals by students, faculty and visiting artists. Open to the public. 704-233-8300, www.wingate.edu.



Events and Places to Visit in Union County

JAARS Day

The technical service for Wycliffe Bible Translators and the Summer Institute of Linguistics opens its facility to visitors monthly. Activities include a tour of the facilities, visits to two museums, and plane and helicopter rides. Lunch is available. Reservations required for dining room. Takes place 4 Saturdays a year. JAARS Center, Davis Road, Waxhaw; 704-843-6000; www.jaars.org.

Lake Park Festival

2011 marks the 21st year for this festival, hosted by the residents of Lake Park and welcomes visitors. Features crafts, food, clothing and jewelry vendors, children's activities, hayrides, and more. Second Saturday in October. Village of Lake Park; 704-882-9616.

Marshville Boll Weevil Jamboree

Spend the day enjoying vendors, music, amusement rides, food and games, then try the evening street dance at this annual event, sponsored by Marshville Chamber of Commerce. Third Saturday in September; downtown Marshville. 704-624-3183.

Monroe Historic Home Tour

Magnificent architecture, creative home decor and splendid gardens await you in historic Monroe. The home tour is held in late spring. 704-292-1705.

Queen's Cup Steeplechase

The breathtaking panoramic view is the perfect backdrop for a full day of events! The annual Queen's Cup Steeplechase includes races, parties, contests and more! Admission fee (profits go to charity). Last Saturday in April; Charlotte Steeplechase Association track off N.C. 75 in Mineral Springs; 704-843-7070; www.queenscup.org.

Stallings Family Night in the Park

Join over 1,000 parents and children for music, food, children's rides and games, sponsored by the Town of Stallings. Held in September, this free event (excluding food) offers rides, a popular band concert and drawings for free gifts. **Cancelled in 2011 due to construction.** 704-821-8557; www.stallingsnc.org.

Union County Community Arts Council Gallery

Downtown Monroe is enhanced by this gallery, which features exhibits/open houses of artists and their various mediums and entertainment. 120 N. Main St., Monroe; 704-283-2784; www.unionarts.org.

Union County Writers Club

This civic club sponsors an annual Literary Arts Festival to recognize area talent. 704-289-7000; www.unionarts.org.

Union Symphony Society

A re-organized effort has many exciting programs and events in place for the community! A series of concerts are performed at different venues across the county. The organization is hosted a trip to Beijing, China 2007. The group is actively involved in promoting the musical arts to youth in the county and holds many competitions and raises funds to support programming. For more information call 704-283-2525 or visit www.unionsymphony.org

Waxhaw Scottish Fair and Games

The 29th Annual gathering and competition takes place in 2008 with many clans getting together for music, games and fun. The event includes bagpipes competition, Scottish games, country dancing, music and booths. Last Saturday in October; admission charge; Cane Creek Park; 704-243-0855 for more information. www.wshg.org



Wingate University

The University presents arts exhibits, theatrical performances, concerts and recitals by students, faculty and visiting artists. The George A. Batte, Jr. Fine Arts Center offers multiple stage venues and offers free parking. Open to the public. 704-233-8300, www.wingate.edu.

Source: Monroe Tourism and Visitors Bureau
www.visitmonroenc.org/thingstodo.php.

Parks & Recreation

Recreation is a big part of life in Union County, as evidenced by the large number of athletic associations, ball fields, parks, tournaments, golf courses and pick-up games.

If you love the links, you have found the right place. Union County's gently rolling wooded hills and mild climate make it a twelve-month golfers' paradise. With three public courses, six semi-private golf clubs, and two private country clubs, you can easily find the one that's right for you. Courses await you designed by Jack Nicklaus and Donald Ross.

If you're a spectator, not a player, Wingate University competes in football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, golf and tennis. All areas of the county have recreational facilities, most with playgrounds and ball fields.

In Monroe, the Parks and Recreation Department provides programs, fitness classes, sports leagues and summer day camps. The city operates the Monroe Country Club and Golf Course on U.S.601 South. That facility features an 18-hole golf course, picnic area and nature trail.

Monroe also operates the Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center on Hanover Drive. Featuring a 25-yard indoor pool, basketball and racquetball courts, running/walking track and fitness equipment, the center also has a water park, whirlpool, sauna, steam room, massage and on-site child care to pamper you. Yoga, aerobics, martial arts and swim classes are available, as well as a wellness program, offered by Union Regional Medical Center there.

The City of Monroe is developing a 30-acre tract on the city's western edge - plans for the Parks Williams Athletic Complex call for soccer and softball fields, a multipurpose field, walking trails, a community park, children's playground, restrooms and parking.

The county's largest recreation facility is Cane Creek Park, a family-oriented venue on 1,050 acres of land surrounding a 350-acre trophy bass lake in southern Union County. Water is the key to Cane Creek, including fishing, swimming and boating. The lake is home to some of the best largemouth bass fishing in the state as well as bluegill, crappie and catfish. A boat ramp lets you bring your own boat and pick your favorite fishing spot. Large covered picnic shelters with power, water, grill and picnic tables let visitors enjoy just-caught fish or any other picnic you choose.

Park activities are not restricted to daytime. At the family camping area, you can relax at one of 108 campsites overlooking the lake. The group camping area features 15 tent sites and cabins to accommodate six people. Swimming, hiking, biking and horse trails also are available.

Union County has opened a second district park in the east, near Wingate. Jesse Helms Park, located on a 250-acre tract on Presson Road, spreads across gently rolling wooded land. Development is long term and will begin within two years. Amenities include athletic fields, hiking trails, picnic areas and natural areas. An agricultural center including meeting space and offices will open in 2006.

Union County is home to a large equestrian population and many private stables. In addition, the Charlotte Steeplechase holds its Queen's Cup races the last Saturday in April at the beautiful Brooklandwood racecourse in Mineral Springs. The race draws crowds in excess of 20,000.

The races are a combination of all-day tailgating and racing, which take equal prominence. The day's festivities include Jack Russell Terrier races, hat contests, tailgate contests for the most elaborate, creative and whimsical tailgate spreads, as well as a raffle for various prizes.



If you're looking for more, look up the road in Charlotte. The Carolina Panthers offer excitement for NFL fans. Don't worry if you're not a football fan, there are many more pro sports opportunities. The Charlotte Bobcats have been competing in the NBA for seven years.

The Charlotte Knights of the AAA International League play at Knights Stadium, off I-77 in Fort Mill, S.C. The Charlotte Checkers, who skate at Time Warner Cable Arena, are members of the American Hockey League. Each spring and summer, the Charlotte Eagles and Lady Eagles keep the adrenalin of soccer fans pumping. In May and October, Charlotte Motor Speedway, off I-85 in Cabarrus County, comes alive with the best of NASCAR racing, including the Coca-Cola 600, Dollar General 300 Miles of Courage and the Bank of America 500.

Source: www.co.union.nc.us

Libraries

The Union County Public Library System is comprised of one Main Library in Monroe with three branches—Union West in Indian Trail, Lois Morgan Edwards Memorial Library in Marshville, and the Waxhaw Branch in Waxhaw. The Library System provides books in regular and large print, audiobooks, DVDs, music CDs, newspapers and magazines. Monroe, Marshville, and Union West are open seven days a week with the Waxhaw Library open Monday through Saturday.

The Main Library is located at 316 East Windsor Street in Monroe. It was renovated and expanded in 2003 to serve residents of the entire county. Unique to the Main Library are a Spanish language collection, and the Dickerson Room which houses local history and genealogy research materials. The major nonfiction and reference collection is housed at the Monroe (Main) Library, where the staff offers telephone and email research assistance as well as help to library visitors.

The Union West Regional Library at 123 Unionville-Indian Trail Road in Indian Trail opened in 2002. This largest branch features a reading room with fireplace, where local residents enjoy browsing magazines and newspapers or quiet study. This full-service facility is a frequent destination for the area's children, who enjoy great programs, many of which are sponsored by the Union West Rotary Club.

The Lois Morgan Edwards Memorial Library at 414 Hasty Street in Marshville was named after the mother of the facility's benefactor, deceased businessman Carroll Edwards. This beautiful facility, reminiscent of a Frank Lloyd Wright design, opened in 2003 to serve all of the residents of eastern Union County. It too is a full-service branch, and uniquely offers an obituary index to the Marshville newspapers.

The Waxhaw Branch, located at 509 South Providence Street in Waxhaw is highly popular in spite of its small size. It provides limited research services but all of the new materials readers of all ages could want.

All Union County Libraries offer public computers and free computer classes. For all ages of preschoolers, there are weekly storytime programs at each location. There are programs throughout the year for kids, teens and adults; summer brings an intense series of activities for school-age children and teens. The libraries offer a wide selection of materials for children, teens and adults, with new books arriving daily.

For hours, directions and a wealth of online services, visit the website at www.union.lib.nc.us or find the Library on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ucplnc.

Source: www.union.lib.nc.us

Television Stations (with News Departments) Serving Union County

[NEWS14 Carolina, Channel 14](#)

Time Warner Cable

Tel: 704-973-5800

Email: assignmentdesk@news14.com

[WBTV, Channel 3 \(CBS\)](#)

Jefferson-Pilot Communications Company

Tel: 704-374-3500

Email: assignmentdesk@wbtv.com

[WCCB-TV, Channel 18 \(FOX\)](#)

Independent (Bahakel Communications Ltd.)

Tel: 704-372-1800

Email: newsdesk@foxcharlotte.com

[WCNC-TV, Channel 36 \(NBC-6\)](#)

Belo Corp.

Tel: 704-329-3636

Email: news@wcnc.com

[WSOC-TV, Channel 9 \(ABC\)](#)

Cox Enterprises Inc.

Tel: 704-335-4999

Email: assignment@wsoc.tv

Radio Stations (with News Departments) Serving Union County

[WBT 1110-AM/WBT 99.3 FM](#)

News/Talk

Tel: 704-374-3500

Email: pr@wbt.com

[WFAE 90.7 FM](#)

(NPR) News/Talk/Jazz

Tel: 704-549-9323

Email: wfae@wfae.org